

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 03680 141200Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HEW-04 OES-09 /107 W
-----087143 141906Z /44

R 141045Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1108
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 3680

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, CE
SUBJECT: NATIONAL STATE ASSEMBLY PASSES CIVIC DISABILITIES BILL

REF: COLOMBO 3406

1. NOTWITHSTANDING THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT'S OPINION THAT
OPERATIVE CLAUSES OF THE CIVIC DISABILITIES BILL DO NOT
CONFORM TO THE CONSTITUTION, PRIME MINISTER PREMADASA SAID
HE WOULD USE THE GOVERNMENT'S TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY TO RAM THE
BILL THROUGH THE NSA AND HE DID. ONLY THE SRI LANKA
FREEDOM PARTY AND TAMIL UNITED LIBERATION FRONT MP'S CAST
OPPOSING VOTES.

2. THE CLAUSES RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL
COURT WERE THOSE IMPOSING ON 34 NAMED PERSONS DISQUALIFICATION
FOR SEVEN YEARS FROM VOTING OR BEING ELECTED IN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS AND BARRING THEM FOR LIFE FROM BEING APPOINTED
TO ANY JUDICIAL OFFICE OR AS AN OFFICER IN ANY GOVERNMENT
POSITION. THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION PERMITS NSA
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PASSAGE OF A BILL IN THE FACE OF A NEGATIVE RULING
BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT IF IT DOES SO WITH AT LEAST
A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY.

3. THERE IS ONLY A REMOTE POSSIBILITY OF AMENDMENTS
IN COMMITTEE. AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, THE
DISQUALIFICATION TO VOTE OR RUN IN AN ELECTION APPLIES

ONLY TO LOCAL ELECTIONS,NOT NATIONAL. WE HAVE
BEEN TOLD THAT THAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO REVIEW EACH
CASE PERSONALLY AND WILL STRIKE THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO
DID NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT A PROPER DEFENSE
BEFORE THE COMMISSION OR AGAINST WHOM HE FEELS THERE IS
INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE.
WRIGGINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VOTING, LEGISLATIVE BILLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978COLOMB03680
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780332-0203
Format: TEL
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780869/aaaacfhe.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f4fe0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL STATE ASSEMBLY PASSES CIVIC DISABILITIES BILL
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, CE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f4fe0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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